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Date of Deposit: May 2, 2006

By: Sharanda Mozart
Sharanda Mozart

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 4159.3005

In Re Application of:

Salmon, Emigdio Jesus

Examiner: **Douglas, John Christopher**

Serial No. **10/623,167**

Art Unit: **1764**

Filed: **July 18, 2003**

For: **Catalytic Naphtha Reforming
Process**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 15, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated March 15, 2006, Applicant respectfully elects Group I with traverse. Applicant respectfully submits that the single claim of Group II as identified by the Examiner is highly related to the claims of Group I. MPEP 803 establishes that "[t]here are two criteria for a proper requirement for restriction between patentably distinct invention:

- (1) The invention must be independent ... or distinct as claimed ...; **and**
 - (2) There must be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required..."
- MPEP 800 and MPEP 803.02 (emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that, due to the related nature of the claims, there would be no "serious burden" on the Examiner to search the claims together. As noted by the Examiner in the office action, the claims are related as process and apparatus for the practice of the practice of the process. Reconsideration of the restriction and consideration of all of the claims is respectfully requested.

A check in the amount of \$120 for large entity is included. In the event the fee is deemed insufficient, the Commissioner is authorized to charge BRACEWELL & GIULIANI LLP, Deposit Account 50-0259 (4159.3005) in the amount of any deficiency.

Date: May 1, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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